

The **Berkshire Workforce Board**, as part of a collaboration with Hampden, Franklin and Hampshire Workforce Boards, is receiving a share of a \$650,000 Advanced Manufacturing Training Program Workforce Development Grant, which will fund local manufacturing training through June. The Berkshires' \$178,000 share of the grant will support the education and training of individuals with entry-level skills needed to enter the county's advanced manufacturing workforce. This training will build upon the success of previous workforce development grants that have been offered for other sectors. The training programs — including Introduction to Manufacturing, Basic Electricity and Electronics for Manufacturing, Welding, and Hydraulics in Manufacturing — will be provided by **Berkshire Community College**, **McCann Technical School** and **Pittsfield Public Schools**. **MassHire Berkshire Career Center** is providing information sessions and conducting outreach and intake activities for training candidates. The training will also include sessions on work readiness and will introduce students to area manufacturers through on-site tours. The grant is targeting unemployed, underemployed, and career changers who wish to obtain employment in the manufacturing sector. The training is offered at no cost to participants. For an application or to learn more, visit www.MassHireBerkshire.com or call 413-442-7177 ext. 118.